Silo - collaborators Attua Aparicio and Oscar Wanless - unveil the outcomes of their most recent experiments with materials and techniques. In their craft and design practice they explore how industrial manufacturing processes might be adapted for small scale production and they identify the alternative possibilities these may offer for the creation of expressive form and decoration. They call their approach ‘Handmade hi-tech’.

Working as artists in residence at Jablite, the UK’s largest producer of expanded polystyrene insulation products, they have continued to refine the textile moulding techniques which they originally developed to form their signature material, NSEPS (Not So Expanded PolyStyrene). This involves steaming or ‘cooking’ coloured polystyrene beads inside specially sewn fabric moulds, causing the beads to expand and fuse together into an unusually dense but lightweight material, while picking up the detail of the stitch and grain of the textile. The patterned biomorphic shapes they make by these means cannot be achieved through the use of conventional industrial metal moulds and it gives rise to the unique formal characteristics of their furniture as well as its distinctive pixelated patterns and texture that persist throughout the material. The technique means that no two objects are ever alike in either form or pattern.

Silo have just recently started to apply their innovative textile moulding process to aluminium and glass. It is used to form the textured aluminium legs of their new tables and stands, their surreal, melting shelf brackets and idiosyncratic wall hooks. NSEPS elements are supported on cushions of hand-moulded Polycaprolactone (PCL) that is dyed in jewel-like hues. The textile-moulded carafes and tumblers take on the patchwork constructions of the individually sewn originals.

The results are playful, functional and decorative artefacts that radically rethink the expressive potential of domestic objects.

**Attua Aparicio and Oscar Wanless** formed the Silo partnership while studying on the Design Products Course at the Royal College of Art (2009 - 2011). Coming from backgrounds in engineering and design, the core of Silo’s work is to look at industrial processes and materials, bringing them into the studio to develop. By adopting a hands-on approach they aim to discover possibilities that the production line misses. Silo were recently nominated in the furniture category of the Design Museum’s 2012 Design Awards, taking part in the exhibition Designs of the Year at the Museum in February. Other recent exhibitions include: Materials for Living [2011] at the Houses of Parliament; Plastic Alchemy [2012] at So Far, The Future, London; Milan Furniture Fair with the RCA’s Paradise (2012). They have recently completed a commission for Bloomberg’s London HQ as part of the annual Waste Not, Want It incentive, curated by Arts Co. Their work can also currently be seen as part of Angus-Hughes Gallery’s Product Placement exhibition where they have been ‘paired’ with artists Ludovica Gioscia and Corinne Felgate to produce a new object. For more information see: Silostudio.net

**Marsden Woo Project Space** is curated by Tessa Peters and runs alongside our established programme of solo and small group exhibitions by gallery artists. MW Project Space allows us to respond quickly to significant bodies of innovative work and showcases the work of talented emerging artists and designers and fresh directions in the work of more established artists. The exhibitions are organized at short notice, so please check our website regularly for news on forthcoming shows and events.
NSEPS = Not So Expanded Polystyrene  PCL = Polycaprolactone

Clockwise from centre of room:

Table, textile-moulded NSEPS top with textile-moulded aluminium base and PCL £3000

Tabletops also available in other materials e.g. oak, smoked glass or marble (POA)

On table:

Glassware, textile-moulded glass

Small tumbler                  clear £40, coloured £45
Carafe                £100

Hooks, textile-moulded aluminium               small/medium/large, £25/£35/£40

Bangles, textile-moulded aluminium or textile-moulded NSEPS £95

Geode lidded vessel, textile-moulded NSEPS with textile-moulded aluminium stand and PCL joints £2100

Geode lights, textile-moulded NSEPS with textile-moulded aluminium stand and PCL joints

small £2400, large £3800

Doric Light (in 2 sections), textile-moulded NSEPS (shown with colour change LEDs)

£4000

Shelves, textile-moulded NSEPS small/medium/large, £110/ £150/ £180

Shelves also available in other materials e.g. oak, smoked glass or marble (POA)

Shelf brackets, textile-moulded aluminium £240 (per pair)

On shelves:

Glassware, textile-moulded glass

Small tumbler clear £40, coloured £45

Medium tumbler clear £50, coloured £55

Large tumbler clear £60, coloured £65

Bottle carafe small/ medium/ large (clear), £75/ £85 /£95

Bottle carafe large (coloured) £100

Pedestal tables, textile-moulded NSEPS tops with textile-moulded aluminium base

small £700, large £1100, price for pair £1500

On table:

Abstract object, textile-moulded NSEPS £600